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U S P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q58703

Toshihito KIMURA

Application No.: 09/654,169

Group Art Unit: 2877

Confirmation No.: 6007

Examiner: Zandra V. SMITH

Filed: September 01, 2000

For: IMAGE INFORMATION READING APPARATUS DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN LIGHT AMOUNT TO BE DETECTED AT UNIFORM LEVEL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith:

Japanese Published Application 10-3134, published January 6, 1998, together with an English-language abstract and machine translation; and

U.S. Patent 5,900,640, published May 4, 1999.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Application No.: 09/654,169

Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

JP 10-3134 is discussed on page 3 of the present application (*see* 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i)). Additionally, an English language abstract is provided, together with a machine translation obtained from the JPO website. Additionally, U.S. Patent 5,900,640, submitted herewith, claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to the Japanese application which was basis for JP 10-3134.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 1, 2003

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	09/654,169
		Confirmation Number	6007
		Filing Date	September 01, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Toshihito KIMURA
		Art Unit	2877
		Examiner Name	Zandra V. SMITH
		Attorney Docket Number	Q58703
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.